

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NASSAU 01144 221706Z

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-10 DEAE-00

SCA-01 COA-02 SCI-06 RSR-01 /093 W

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R 221410Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4512

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI BF

SUBJ: SECURITY SURVEY TEAM

REF: (A) STATE 135246; (B) NASSAU 1008

1. ON AUGUST 21 I FINALLY GOT TO SEE CABINET SECRETARY,
WHO HAD BEEN ON LEAVE IN ENGLAND, RE INFO REQUESTED PARAS
2(H) AND R(A) OF REF A.

2. BAIN LISTED THE BASIC MISSIONS OF THE BAHAMIAN SECURITY
FORCES AS FOLLOWING:

A. TO SECURE THE WHOLE ARCHIPELAGO AGAINST ILLEGAL AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES SUCH AS NARCOTICS SMUGGLING, ETC.;
B. TO PREVENT THE ENTRY OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS;
C. TO PROTECT BAHAMIAN NATURAL RESOURCES (CONSERVATION, FISHERIES, ETC.);
D. TO PROTECT THE ECOLOGY (POLLUTION PREVENTION);
E. TO MAINTAIN CLOSE SURVEILLANCE OF THE ENTIRE ISLAND CHAIN;
AND
F. TO PREVENT ACTIVITIES PREJUDICIAL TO THE BAHAMAS AND THE AREA IN GENERAL (APPARENT REFERENCE TO ANTI-CUBAN MILITANT ACTIVITIES).

3. BAIN SUMMARIZED THE FOREGOING UNDER FOUR GENERAL HEADINGS:
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PAGE 02 NASSAU 01144 221706Z

- "MILITARY-TYPE" ACTIVITIES;
- IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS
- PROTECTION OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS, AND
- ECOLOGY.

AS AN "OFFSHOOT" OF THESE HE ALSO MENTIONED RESCUE WORK IN CONNECTION WITH DISASTERS SUCH AS HURRICANES.

4. BAIN THEN TURNED TO ITEMS THE SURVEY SHOULD COVER AS INCLUDING VESSELS, AIRCRAFT (FIXED-WING AND HELICOPTERS), FORWARD BASES, AND TRAINING. THE LATTER WOULD INCLUDE NOT ONLY INSTRUCTION FOR IN-SERVICE PERSONNEL, BUT ALSO ESTABLISH-

MENT OF A SCHOOL TO DEVELOP A POOL OF SKILLED PERSONNEL FOR THE FORCE TO DRAW UPON. FINALLY, THE CABINET SECRETARY NOTED THE NEED TO ESTABLISH A GCOB SECURITY PRESENCE IN REMOTE AREAS WHERE THERE WAS NONE AT PRESENT, SUCH AS CAY SAL.

5. WITH REGARD TO TEAM CONTACTS, BAIN SUGGESTED HIMSELF AND POSSIBLY MR. BASIL O'BRIEN (AN ASSISTANT IN THE CABINET OFFICE WHO WAS A BACK-UP MEMBER OF THE GCOB DELEGATION AT THE BASE TALKS). WHEN I MENTIONED THE POLICE COMMISSIONER, BAIN COMMENTED THAT THIS STUDY WAS BROADER THAN JUST THE POLICE, BUT THAT THEY MIGHT BE BROUGHT IN ON TECHNICAL QUESTIONS.

6. COMMENT: THIS WAS OFF THE TOP OF BAIN'S HEAD AND NOT THE RESULT OF ANY SYSTEMATIC STUDY. IT SUGGESTS THAT IT MAY TAKE A FEW DAYS AT THE START TO TRY TO CLARIFY GCOB THINKING AND GET A SHARPER FOCUS ON WHAT TASKS BAHAMIAN SECURITY FORCES ARE SUPPOSED TO ADDRESS. I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE CONTINUE TO TRY TO ELICIT THIS IN GREATER DETAIL FROM THE BAHAMANS AND AVOID AS FAR AS POSSIBLE SUBSTITUTING OUR OWN "MADE IN USA" FORMULA.

SPEAR

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